

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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21

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 /010 W
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P 300910Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 218
INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS LUSAKA 1054

FOR AF/E COOTE

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: DEATH OF DUKE ELLINGTON

1. PLEASE PASS TO FAMILY OF DUKE ELLINGTON FOLLOWING MESSAGE
WHICH I HAVE RECEIVED FROM PRESIDENT KAUNDA:

"YOUR EXCELLENCY.,

" WE HAVE LEARNT WITH DEEP SORROW THE UNTIMELY DEATH OF DUKE
ELLINGTON ONE OF THE WORLD S GREATEST JAZZ MUSICIANS.

"IT IS PARTICULARLY PAINFUL TO US IN ZAMBIA WHEN WE RECALL
THE LATE DUKE S TOUCHING MUSICAL PERFORMANCE LAST NOVEMBER.
THOUGH, I PERSONALLY HAD NO CHANCE TO LISTEN TO HIS INSPIRING
VOICE WHEN HE WAS KIND ENOUGH TO ENTERTAIN MY COLLEAGUES IN
STATE HOUSE, THOSE OF MY FELLOW COUNTRYMEN WHO ATTENDED,
WERE OVERWHELMED BY HIS MUSIC. I SHOULD ADD HERE THAT
EVERY SINCE THAT TIME I HAVE FEARED I HAD MISSED THE
ONLY OPPORTUNITY TO COME MY WAY OF SEEING HIM. I
CANNOT RECOVER FROM THIS. I HAVE ALWAYS ADMIRED HIM.

"I WISH THEREFORE TO SEND THROUGH YOUR EXCELLENCY OUR
DEEPEST SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILY, FRIENDS AND RELATIVES
OF THE DECEASED. PLEASE DO LET THEM KNOW THAT WE
SHARE WITH THEM THE GRIEF AND THAT WE SHALL ALWAYS
CHERISH THE HAPPY MEMORIES OF THE DUKE S INVALUABLE
CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORLD OF MUSIC.

"YOURS SINCERELY"

"KENNETH DAVID KAUNDA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA"

2. I HAVE CHECKED WITH THE PRESIDENT S SPECIAL ASSISTANT

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WHO SAYS THAT STATE HOUSE HAS NO OBJECTION TO ANY

PUBLICITY WHICH THE FAMILY OF ELLINGTON OR THE US GOVERNMENT
MAY WISH TO GIVE TO THIS MESSAGE.
WILKOWSKI

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
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